

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-12 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-10 are amended, and claims 11 and 12 are added. No new matter is added. Reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicants thank Examiner Pang for the courtesies extended to Applicants' representatives during the June 15 personal interview. The remarks below constitute Applicants' record of the interview. During the interview, the Examiner agreed that the claimed features overcome the applied art.

The Office Action rejects to claims 1, 3-7, 9 and 10 for informalities. These claims are amended to obviate the objection. As such, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claims 1 and 2 are amended to obviate the rejection. Claim 3-10 depend from claim 1 and do not contain the informalities. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3, and 5-8 are amended for greater clarity without narrowing the scope of the claims.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 5-7, 9 and 10. Because the 35 U.S.C. §112 rejection of these claims is overcome by this Amendment, Applicants understand that claims 5-7, 9 and 10 are allowable.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-4 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 6,159,127 to Loeffler et al. (Loeffler). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, that an electric power generator generates an electric power by being driven by a prime mover at shifting time of a transmission, and an electronic circuit drives the electric motor to assist the driving torque at the shifting time by supplying the

electric power generated from the electric power generator at the shifting time of the transmission.

As agreed during the interview, Loeffler does not teach or suggest these features. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentably distinct from Loeffler.

Claims 2-4 and 8 are allowable at least for their dependence from allowable claim 1, as well as for the additional features they recite.

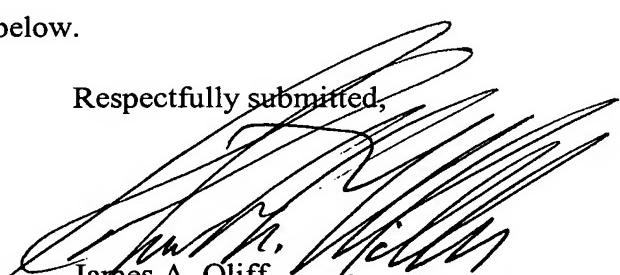
Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

New independent claims 11 and 12 are added by this Amendment. The features recited in claims 11 and 12 are shown in Fig. 2. At least claim 11 was discussed during the interview, and claim 12 recites alternative language. Claims 11 and 12 each recite features similar to those of allowable claim 1. Therefore, it is submitted claims 11 and 12 are allowable.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-12 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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